

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3105
ANSWERED ON:17.12.2015
Construction of New Airports
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Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the projects for construction of new airports taken up during the 11th and 12th Five year plan;
- (b) the number of these projects that have been completed;
- (c) the details of the ranking of these airports in comparison to the airports world over;
- (d) whether Indian airports are lagging behind international airports in terms of the existing infrastructure and facilities available therein; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the steps being taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

Minister of State in the Ministry of CIVIL AVIATION
(Dr Mahesh Sharma)

(a): Government of India (GoI) has granted "in-principle" approval to 14 projects for construction of Greenfield airports during the 11th and 12th Five Year Plan period. These projects are airports at Mopa in Goa, Navi Mumbai, Shirdi and Sindhudurg in Maharashtra, Shimoga, Gulbarga, Hassan and Bijapur in Karnataka, Kannur in Kerala, Durgapur in West Bengal, Pakyong in Sikkim, Datia/Gwalior (Cargo) in Madhya Pradesh, Kushinagar in Uttar Pradesh and Karaikal in Puducherry.

(b) & (c): The construction work of Greenfield airport at Durgapur in West Bengal has been completed and commercial operations from the airport have already commenced on 18th May, 2015. Ranking details of the airport may not be ascertained in such a short span of time from operationalization of the airport.

(d) & (e): Although airport infrastructure in the country has a humble past, Airports Authority of India (AAI), along with the private sector, has continued to create airport infrastructure at a rapid pace during the 11th and 12th plan period. Delhi, Mumbai, Bengaluru, Hyderabad, Chennai, Kolkata and Kochi now have airports that compare very well internationally. AAI has undertaken upgradation and modernization of 35 non-metro airports. Further, construction of Greenfield airports across the country through the State and private participation is a step ahead towards augmenting improved airport infrastructure in the country at par with the international standards.